

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SAN JO 02944 170808Z

20

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 IO-10 AID-05 /065 W

----- 089574

O 170648Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 817

INFO ALL OAS CAPITALS 002

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN JOSE 2944

USDEL 006

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OCON, OAS

SUBJECT: SAN JOSE CONFERENCE

1. CUBA WAS STILL FRONT AND CENTER JULY 16, THOUGH WITH
THE FORMAL OPENING OF THE CONFERENCE DELEGATES BEGAN TO
SETTLE DOWN TO THE WORDADAY BUSINESS OF AMENDING THE RIO
TREATY.

2. THE IDEA THAT THE 14 VOTES REQUIRED TO APPROVE A
FREEDOM OF ACTION FORMULA IS PROBABLY AVAILABLE HAS
BEGUN TO SINK HOME TO SOME OF THE RELUCTANT DELEGATIONS.
AMBASSADOR CASTILLO ARRIOLA APPROACHED US TO SAY THAT
GUATEMALA IS NOT YET PREPARED TO VOTE FOR FREEDOM OF
ACTION AT SAN JOSE, BUT WOULD SUPPORT IT IF A SEPARATE
CONFERENCE WERE TO BE HELD TEN DAYS OR TWO WEEKS AFTER
THE CLOSE OF THIS CONFERENCE. CASTILLO'S ARGUMENT WAS
THAT IF WE SHOULD MOVE DIRECTLY FROM AMENDMENT OF THE
RIO TREATY TO THE CUBA QUESTION HERE, IT WOULD DETRACT
FROM THE IMPORTANT WORK DONE ON RIO TREATY REFORM AND
INDEED WOULD LEAD TO INTERPRETATIONS THAT THE WHOLE REFORM
EFFORT HAD BEEN A COVER TO DEAL WITH THE CUBA PROBLEM.
CASTILLO SAID HE HAD TALKED WITH BOLIVIAN AMBASSADOR

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 SAN JO 02944 170808Z

SANZ AND BELIEVED THAT BOLIVIA WOULD FOLLOW GUATEMALA'S

LEAD ON SUPPORTING A FREEDOM OF ACTION FORMULA AT A LATER DATE.

3. WE PROMISED TO TRANSMIT GUATEMALA'S VIEWS TO WASHINGTON. DE LA COLINA OF MEXICO, WHO IS STILL THE QUARTERBACK ON THIS MATTER, SAID THAT HE WAS RECEPTIVE TO GUATEMALA'S APPEAL, SINCE HE WAS DESIROUS OF GETTING AS LARGE A MAJORITY AS POSSIBLE FOR HIS INITIATIVE, AND A FEW DAYS WOULD HARDLY MATTER. HE SUGGESTED TRINIDAD AS A GOOD PLACE TO HOLD A MEETING SOMETIME IN AUGUST. HE SAID, HOWEVER, AND WE AGREED, THAT NOTHING SHOULD BE DONE ON THIS WITHOUT THE APPROVAL OF FACIO, WHOSE VIEWS WE DO NOT YET HAVE. THE CHIEFS OF THE COLOMBIAN AND VENEZUELAN DELEGATION HAVE TOLD US THEY DO NOT LIKE GUATEMALA'S PLOY.

4. THE CONFERENCE PROPER GOT OFF TO A GOOD START WITH THE ELECTION OF FACIO AS CHAIRMAN AND THE DECISION TO GET RIGHT DOWN TO BUSINESS. NICARAGUA TRIED TO CHANGE THE RULES APPROVED BY THE PERMANENT COUNCIL SO THAT THIS CONFERENCE COULD APPROVE AMENDMENTS ONLY BY TWO-THIRDS VOTE BUT THE MAJORITY-VOTE FORMULA WON WITH ONLY FIVE VOTES OPPOSED (U.S. INCLUDED). RATIFICATION WILL REQUIRE TWO-THIRDS OF ALL MEMBERS.

5. THE SPEECHES AT THE FORMAL OPENING SESSION BY FACIO, ORFILA, ODUBER AND VENEZUELAN AMBASSADOR MACHIN WERE UN-EXCEPTIONABLE. ODUBER'S WAS THE MOST INTERSTING. HE MADE AN IMPRESSIVE APPEAL FOR A STRONG TREATY, SAYING THAT ONLY THE PROTECTION PROVIDED BY THE TREATY MADE IT POSSIBLE FOR COSTA RICA TO DISPENSE WITH AN ARMY. HE MENTIONED SPECIFICALLY (PERHAPS TO THE DISCOMFITURE OF SOME PRESENT) PAST INCURSIONS BY COSTA RICA'S NEIGHBORS, IN WHICH THE TREATY HAD COME TO THE RESCUE.

6. THE AFTERNOON SESSION WAS TAKEN UP WITH A DISCUSSION OF ARTICLE 2 OF THE RIO TREATY. THE U.S. SOUGHT TO RETAIN THE SPECIFIC INJUNCTION THAT AN EFFORT SHOULD BE MADE TO RESOLVE DISPUTES IN THE HEMISPHERE BEFORE TAKING THEM TO THE UN. THIS VIEW GOT SOME SUPPORT (BRAZIL, CHILE, CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 SAN JO 02944 170808Z

NICARAGUA, EL SALVADOR, URUGUAY, PARAGUAY). WE HAVE HELD A MEETING WITH BRAZIL, CHILE AND EL SALVADOR IN ORDER TO PRESENT A UNITED FRONT AT THURSDAY MEETING, THOUGH OUR CHANCE OF WINNING ON THIS ISSUE IS NOT GOOD.
TODMAN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 JUL 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975SANJO02944
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750246-1318
From: SAN JOSE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750746/aaaabpjc.tel
Line Count: 112
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION ARA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 SEP 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 SEP 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <13 NOV 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SAN JOSE CONFERENCE
TAGS: OCON, OAS
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006